GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2151
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
INDIAN OCEAN RIM ORGANISATION FOR REGIONAL CO- OPERATION
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives for which the Indian Ocean Rim Organisation for Regional Co-operation (IOR-ARC) has been formed;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to achieve the said objectives; and

(c) the role played by India in the said organisation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) The objectives of the Indian Ocean Rim − Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC), inter alia, include the facilitation and promotion of economic cooperation among member States. Cooperation within the framework of IOR-ARC seeks to reinforce, and not substitute, the bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral obligations of Member States.

(b) Projects have been undertaken for economic cooperation, trade facilitation, investment promotion and human resource development.

(c) India has participated actively in various IOR-ARC activities and has organized programmes for cooperation in e-commerce, disaster management and agro food processing and industries.